

# Marong Primary School Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 38, 1st December, 2023

	December		December
4th-11th	Activities Week	18th	Grade 6 Graduation
8th	Curriculum Day	19th	School Concert- 7pm
11th	Grade 6 Big Day Out	20th	Last Day of Term- 1:30 Dismissal
12th	State Wide Transition		
13th	House Swimming Sports		
14th	Marong's Got Talent		
15th	Champions House Event		
18th	School Concert- 1:30		

***RESPECT      RESPONSIBILITY      HONESTY***

## **From the Principal**

Dear Parents and Care Givers,

### **Student Resources Financial Contribution.**

The Marong Primary School, 2023 student resources contribution levy is \$170 for Grade P-2 students and \$195 for students in Grades 3-6. For information about this levy please contact our office staff.

### **House Swimming and Water Activities Day**

On Wednesday December 13th we will be conducting a House Swimming Sports and Water Activity Day at Brennan Park pool, Flora Hill. This is a whole school event and we will be transporting the students to and from the venue by bus. The cost for the transport will be \$5.00 per student. There are no additional costs associated with this special event. Students will need to bring bathers, sun top, sunscreen, a hat on the day. They will also need to bring a snack, drink bottle and their lunch.

### **2023 School Concert**

Due to the anticipated large number of parents and extended family members who are likely to attend we will again conduct a matinee performance and an evening performance. Bookings for the concert performances can be made at the office. Register your name and numbers attending, not including Marong PS students. Please note: Please only book to attend one of the performances. available for as many people as possible.

This will ensure we have seats available for as many people as possible.

### **Best Wishes David and Marlow**

Tomorrow David Johnstone will marry his partner Marlow. On behalf of everyone at Marong Primary School we wish David and Marlowe all the very best for the future. We hope they have a fantastic day and a lifetime of happiness together.

### **Curriculum Day**

Parents and guardians are advised that School Council has approved Friday December 8th to be a Curriculum Day and consequently students are not required to attend school on that day. Staff will be involved in planning processes for the 2024 school year.

### **Grade Six Big Day**

Out On Monday December 11th the Grade 6 students will participate in our annual Year 6 Big Day Out. Details re this event, activities, transport and costs currently are being finalised and will be circulated once bookings have been confirmed.

### **Grade Six Upcoming Events**

Orientation Day: Parents of grade Six students are advised that the Statewide Orientation Day to secondary college will take place on Tuesday the 12th of December. Details re this event will be sent in the near future.

Graduation: We will be conducting our annual Graduation presentations for Grade Six students on Monday the 18th of December. Parents and extended family members are invited to attend this ceremony which will take place in the PAC commencing at 7pm on Monday . The graduates will be participate in a meal with their teachers prior to the ceremony. The students are invited to dress for this event in smart casual /semi formal attire.

# STAFF PROFILES

## **How long have you worked at MPS?**

Since 2018

## **What's your favourite thing about MPS**

In 23 years of teaching, this is by far the best school I've taught in. The staff, students and parent community are my favourite thing about MPS.

## **Favourite movie or TV show?**

Anything sports related when I get the chance to switch it from ABC kids.

## **Favourite food?**

Roast pork....mmm, crackling

## **What AFL team do you support?**

The Mighty Tigers



## **Something people might not know about you?**

I spent 4 years teaching in London. During which time, I travelled to Africa providing underprivileged children with school supplies.

**MR SADDLER**

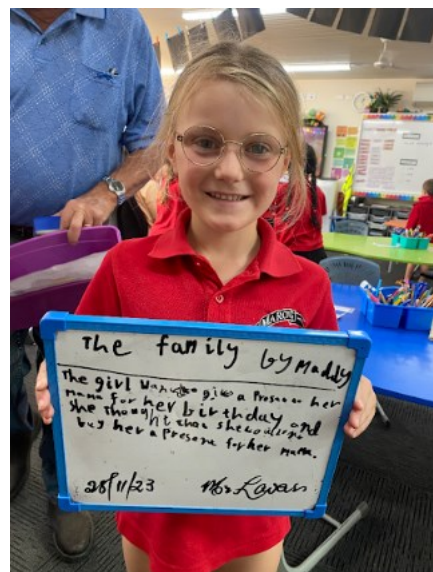
## Grade Prep/One

This week our Prep/one students enjoyed writing letters to Santa. We were able to walk over to the local post office and officially send off our letters to the north pole. Now



we are eagerly waiting for a reply and are excited to hear back from Santa himself! Students have enjoyed making numbered paper chains in mathematics and creating number lines in sequences. We are getting very excited for our school concert and have been working really hard to practise our acts. Stay safe and enjoy a lovely weekend.

Moyra O'Donoghue, Emma Cook, Jess Taylor and Kate Maddern



# STAFF PROFILE

**How long have you worked at MPS?**

Since 2016

**What is your favourite thing about MPS?**

All the friendly kids and staff. It's easy coming to MPS every day.

**Favourite TV show or movie?**

Either Bluey or Thomas the Tank Engine... Tough choice!

**Favourite food?**

Burger with the lot, with chips of course



**What AFL team do you support?**

The Bombers!

**What is something people might not know about you?**

I love a garage sale, especially if they're selling basketball cards

**MR STACEY**



## **Grade 2/3!**

Students this week presented their planet posters this week, topping off a successful unit of learning filled with fun facts. We also finished off our board games in Numeracy where students took one concept we learnt this semester such as shape, fractions, the four operations or probability and turned them into an interactive game for end of year fun. Again, finishing off, student completed their autobiographies based of the Little People, Big Dreams book set which were written in third person. During reading student went on an ad-verb hunt! Students are looking forward to activities week next week!



## **Grade 4/5/6!**

It has been another busy week in grade 4/5/6 as we are quickly approaching the end of the school year. In reading this week we have been learning about readers theater. Students have been practising scripts, focusing on changing their expression to match their character and getting ready to perform to the class. In writing, students got to choose their focus. Some students focused on writing narratives, information reports, fact files and persuasive pieces. In maths this week students created their very own boardgames. Students had to plan and design their boardgame before making and playing it. In integrated we made our very own podcasts! Students chose a topic from integrated this term and turned it into a podcast for all to hear!!

We would also like to send our best wishes to Mr Johnstone and his partner Marlow who are getting married today! We hope you have the best day!

Have a great weekend :)

Mr Riordan, Mr Johnstone, Ms Thorn and Miss Williams.



# STAFF PROFILE

**How long have you worked at MPS?**

12 years

**What is your favourite thing about MPS?**

I love the amazing staff and kids we have here. We're pretty lucky!

**Favourite Movie or TV show?**

Good will hunting... gets me every time!

**Favourite food?**

Anything and everything, I'm not fussy!

**What AFL team do you support?**

Collingwood, Go pies!

**What is something people may not know about you?**

I was lucky enough to trek Macchu Picchu in Peru, South America many years ago. Such a cool adventure!



**MR RIORDAN**





#### **Prep/One Maddern**

Amelia G - Amelia has blown us away with an awesome introduction sentence she wrote during writing this week. She has been working hard, leading by example and always gives one hundred percent to every task. Well done Mil, keep up the super work!

#### **Prep/One O**

Zara P – Zara has been working hard as we near the end of the year. She has shown some wonderful progress in her group with Miss Patching as well as in the classroom writing lessons. Zara is kind and caring of her classmates and I am happy to give her all the praise this week.

#### **Prep/One Mrs Cook & Jess**

Lily A- Lily has returned to school with ease and we are so happy to have her back in our class. She is demonstrating confidence when working independently and is showing wonderful growth in her writing. Super Work Lily!

#### **2/3 Fry**

#### **2/3 Stacey**

Aiden B- Aidan has been powering through his work, whether it's independently or in groups, finishing off and presenting projects, he has been really resilient throughout the huge week. Finishing strong Aidan, well done!

#### **2/3 Maher**

Heidi C- Heidi is finishing the year strong! She has been super focused on presenting her best work with her Little People Big Dreams book and her maths board game and is impressing with her attention to detail. Keep up the great work Heidi!!

#### **4/5/6 Johnstone**

Missy L- Missy is a confident student who goes about her day in the classroom in a professional manner. She has worked hard this week and has been completing work to the best of her ability. She can be relied upon to always do the right thing and is always willing to help everyone. Good work Miss!

#### **4/5/6 Riordan**

Matthew T-for displaying all our school values this week. Matthew has worked well on all tasks this week and is finishing out the year well! Keep up the great work Matthew!

#### **4/5/6 Thorn & Williams**

Joey F– Joey is an enthusiastic member of our classroom who can always be counted on. He consistently displays our school values and is a worthy recipient this week. Well done Joey!

# Marong Primary School Vacation Care Program

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> of January	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> of January	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> of January	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> of January	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> of January
Public Holiday Service closed	<b>Pyjama and movie day</b> Roll out of bed and straight into PJ and Movie Day.	<b>Excursion -Walk Malone Park</b> Enjoy some group games on the oval. You may bring some equipment from home.	<b>Chill out day</b> Explore all the fun things to do in the Beehive. Enjoy some time on the computers and iPads.	<b>Excursion -Bus Crook street playground</b> Explore the playground and bush area of Crook Street.

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> of January	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> of January	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> of January	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> of January	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> of January
<b>Water splash day</b> Bring your bathers and a towel for the ultimate water fight!	<b>Talent show</b> Transform the PAC into the Australia's Got Talent stadium.	<b>Minute to win it</b> Can you complete the challenge in only 60 seconds?	<b>Excursion -Walk Malone Park</b> Bring your bike or scooter to ride to Malone Park for a play.	<b>Prima and Picasso</b> Participate in a guided drawing activity while sipping on Juice boxes.

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> of January	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> of January	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> of January	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> of January	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> of January
<b>Excursion -Walk Malone Park</b> Enjoy some group games on the oval.	<b>Tye Dye</b> Bring in a white shirt or some white socks and go home with a unique piece of clothing.	<b>Messy play day</b> Wear your old clothes and engaged your senses in a range of messy but fun activities.	<b>Disco Party</b> Shine up your shoes and show of our dance moves.	<b>Gymnastics day</b> Transform the PAC into a gymnasium and learn some new skills.

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> of January	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> of January	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> of January	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> of January	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> of January
<b>Excursion -Bus Rosalind Park</b> Explore Rosalind Park from hiding/finding decorated rocks to climbing the poppet head.	<b>Excursion -Walk Malone Park</b> Enjoy some time at the playground near Malone Park.	<b>Dress up day</b> Dress up as something that starts with the first letter of your name.	<b>Back to school BBQ party</b> Play some garden games then enjoy a sausage in bread for lunch!	Public Holiday Service closed.

Please note we are not providing all day care on the upcoming curriculum day on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of December.

We will however be providing care on the last day of term. After school care will run from 1:30-4:00 as per previous years. Please ensure you make arrangements to collect our child prior to 4:00

Vacation care will be running over January with our first day on January 2<sup>nd</sup> and our last day being the 25<sup>th</sup> of January. Bookings are currently open and will close on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November. Please collect a form from the Office or the OSHC room. Booking forms are also on our OSHC Dojo.

Chelsie and the OSHC team.

# Wellbeing |

## **Why teaching children empathy is more important than ever**



(The following article can be found at [www.goodstart.org.au](http://www.goodstart.org.au))

Empathy is the ability to put yourself in the shoes of someone else and understand what they are feeling or experiencing.

In the early years of life, young children are naturally ego-centric and are very much inclined to think mostly about themselves and their immediate needs. They're not yet ready to consider the needs and feelings of others.

But developing a sense of empathy is an important developmental process for young children, and one that can benefit them not only in childhood but well into adult life as well.

### **Why is developing empathy important for children?**

Building an understanding of what others are feeling, how their own actions can impact on others, and why someone might be experiencing feelings at a particular time is a valuable life skill for children to possess.

Helping young children to develop a strong sense of empathy is beneficial because:

- It helps them to build a sense of security and stronger relationships with other children and educators, positioning them well for learning
- It encourages tolerance and acceptance of others
- It promotes good mental health
- It promotes social harmony and can reduce the likelihood of bullying

The benefits of empathetic thinking flow into adult life too. Empathetic adults may have:

- Greater success personally and professionally
- Higher levels of overall happiness
- A better ability to understand others, like customers or co-workers
- More success in leadership positions
- More satisfying relationships and be better at dealing with conflict
- Lower levels of stress

In a nutshell, developing empathy is a vital building block in a child's ability to **regulate their emotions** and is so valuable in being able to adapt and succeed in an ever-changing world.

### **How can we help children develop empathy?**

Parents are children's first and most enduring teachers, and modelling empathetic behaviour is one of the best ways parents can teach their child this valuable skill.

Other simple ways empathy can be developed include:

- Helping your child to **name their feelings**, as understanding their own feelings is an important first step in understanding the feelings of others
- Talking to your child about how other people may be feeling, and why. This helps to build their emotional language and think about other people's perspectives.
- **Caring for animals** and plants, which helps children understand the role they play in helping another living thing survive, thrive and be happy.

Perhaps one of the simplest ways of all to help children develop a sense of empathy is by reading books together, as children learn to associate feelings and actions with their favourite characters and stories.

*A reminder that myself and or Ms White are available to provide confidential advice and access to support for you and your child. Please don't hesitate to contact the school to discuss how we might be able to best help you.*

Marc Cowan

Chaplain & Student Wellbeing Officer





# Free Family Community Meals

Pop on into the Hilltop Café at The Salvation Army Bendigo and join us for a hot meal

Playground and Art Space available for the kids

Takeaway meals are available

12 pm – 1 pm Fridays

Hilltop Café

65-71 Mundy St, Bendigo Victoria



Contact Brannon on 0439 576 689 for more info



# ★ ELF ACADEMY ★

CLASS IN SESSION: 16-23 DECEMBER 2023






## DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT REALLY TAKES TO BE ONE OF SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS?

Central Deborah Gold Mine will transform into  
a Christmas wonderland from 16-23 December.

Through a series of craft activities, games and challenges,  
gain your Certificate IV in Elf Training and be elf-icially  
inducted into Santa's renowned team!



## BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

5443 8322 | [central-deborah.com](http://central-deborah.com) |   



### **Smile Squad is coming to Marong Primary School.**

The Smile Squad team from Bendigo Health are coming to our school in Term 4 (planned for the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> November)

Smile Squad is the Victorian Government free school dental program.

This means all students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

#### **How to access free dental care**

We need your consent before we can provide services. Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian.

Sign up to Smile Squad at: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the below QR code:



Paper copies of the consent form are available. Please contact the school office if you would like to request one.

The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is available in 13 languages.

#### **Smile Squad dental packs**

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make sure this happens.

Your child(ren) will soon receive a free dental pack to bring home. The dental pack contains a toothbrush, full sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure. Please take the time to read the brochure. It's full of helpful hints and tips to help your whole family eat well, drink well and clean well – for life.

Smile Squad provides standard strength fluoride toothpaste that is generally used by ages six and over, unless recommended by a dental or trained health professional.

If your child is under six, please talk to a dental or trained health professional to find out if your child might benefit from using this toothpaste. You can also choose to put the toothpaste away until they turn six or give it to someone else in your family to use.

#### **Do I need to attend my child's appointment?**

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You can attend if you would like to, and you can take your child to the community dental clinic if you prefer.

The Bendigo Health Smile Squad team look forward to seeing you soon.





# REMINDER: HAVE YOU REGISTERED?

NAB AFL Auskick is a community run program that relies on the honesty, involvement and support of all people involved. A key part of your participation at Auskick is to ensure you are registered on our registration platform.

It is important you are registered for the following reasons:

- 1** This ensures your Auskick Coordinator knows who you are and knows how many kids to plan for and equipment to provide at each session
- 2** Registrations have the following key benefits
  - a. Insurance for any injuries sustained during play
  - b. Awesome goodies in your AFL Club colours as well as the essentials such as a footy, pump and footy cards
  - c. The option to become a Junior Member at your favourite AFL Club completely free of charge and attend selected Toyota AFL Premiership Series AFL Games and NAB AFLW Games
  - d. Exclusive offers from AFL partners
- 3** Lastly your Auskick Centre receives equipment funding and other support based on each individual registration

Register via the QR code below  
or visit [play.afl/auskick](https://play.afl/auskick)





**2024 POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

# **JUNIOR NETBALL**

Newbridge FNC will have playing positions available for the 2024 season

**Under 17  
Under 15  
Under 13  
Minis**

For further info contact:-

**Larni Cleeland**

Netball Operations  
0467 597 136

**Mandy Dixon**

NFNC Vice President  
0427 856 764





# EAGLEHAWK CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

**FREE  
ENTRY**

**FRIDAY  
NOV 17, 2023**

**3PM  
TO 6PM**

ANIMAL FARM ♥ THE ZONE ROCK CLIMBING WALL  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ♥ ART AND CRAFT ♥ JUMPING CASTLE  
AIRBRUSH TATTOOS ♥ SPORTING ACTIVITIES ♥ CIRCUS ACTIVITIES  
TZR REPTILES AND WILDLIFE DISPLAY ♥ LUCKY DOOR PRIZES  
FACE PAINTING ♥ FREE SWIMS AT PETER KRENZ LEISURE CENTRE  
AUSLAN SESSIONS WITH THE DEAF HUB ♥ FREE GIVEAWAYS!  
BENDIGO BBQ SAUSAGES, VEGGIE BURGERS AND  
MULTICULTURAL FOOD- ALL AVAILABLE FOR A \$2 DONATION

**CANTERBURY PARK GARDENS  
3 HIGH STREET, EAGLEHAWK**



For more information contact Eaglehawk Community House on 5446 8322





# mckern steel<sup>TM</sup> foundation

## Benefitting the health and wellbeing of our Bendigo school children

School visits coming  
in TERM 4

Proudly funded by:



@mckernsteelfoundation

